



Docket No.: K21246 US (C038435/0181394)

1657
JTW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tatsuo HOSHINO *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/511,426

Filed: October 14, 2004

For: **ALDEHYDE DEHYDROGENASE II**

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Examiner: Irene Marx

Art Unit: 1651

New York, New York
August 15, 2007

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2007, which set a one-month shortened statutory period for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely upon mailing, with an executed certificate of mailing, on or before August 20, 2007, because August 18, 2007 is a Saturday. 37 CFR §§ 1.7 and 1.8. No fee is believed to be due. If it is determined that a fee is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner issued a three-way restriction requirement pursuant to 35 USC §§ 121 and 372. The restriction divided the claims into the following allegedly distinct inventions: Group I drawn to "a purified alcohol dehydrogenase" containing claims 1-4; Group II drawn to "a method of making

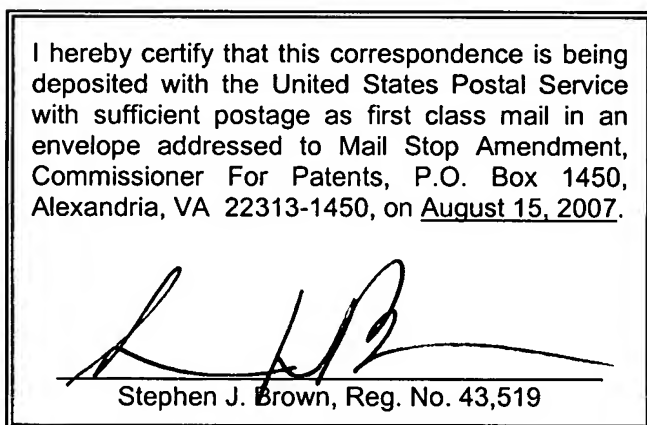
Application No.: 10/511,426
Response Dated: August 15, 2007
Reply to Office Action Dated: July 18, 2007




an aldehyde hydrogenase" containing claims 5-12; and Group III drawn to "a method of making a carboxylic acid with a purified alcohol dehydrogenase or a cell free extract *Gluconobacter*" containing claims 7-13. (Paper No. 20070627 at 2.)

In accordance with restriction practice, the subject matter of **claims 7-13 (Group III)** is hereby elected for prosecution with traverse.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.



Respectfully submitted,

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